

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, Private First Class Laurel A. Foss served with the United States Army Company 1, 179th Infantry Regiment, 45th Infantry Division during the Korean Conflict; and,

Whereas, While serving in Korea on May 6 and 7, 1952, near Old Baldy Hill, Private First Class Foss' squad was on patrol to establish a night ambush when the patrol itself was ambushed by a Chinese platoon reinforced by two machine guns situated on either side of the trail leading to the crest of Old Baldy; and,

Whereas, An intense firefight erupted and Private First Class Foss, despite being wounded by a bullet through the kneecap, continued to deliver devastating fire into the Chinese position while the rest of his patrol withdrew to safety; and,

Whereas, After exhausting his ammunition, Private First Class Foss crawled 50 yards down Old Baldy, dressed his wounds, and spent the night alone until he was rescued the next morning; and,

Whereas, Private First Class Foss' exemplary performance of duty in active ground combat was in keeping with the finest traditions of military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the 179th Infantry Regiment, and the United States Army has earned him the Bronze Star Medal with "V" Device; and,

Whereas, It is fitting and proper that the Governor recognize Private First Class Foss' receipt of the Bronze Star, the National Defense Service Medal, the United Nations Service Medal, and the 179th Infantry's receipt of the Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation for their commitment to duty to this country and state during the Korean Conflict:

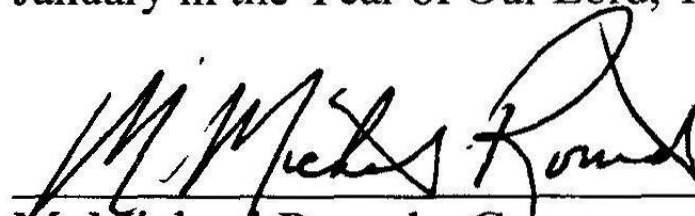
Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim January 14, 2005, as

PRIVATE FIRST CLASS LAUREL A. FOSS DAY

in South Dakota, and I join his family, friends, and colleagues in honoring and wishing him good health and happiness.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twelfth Day of January in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Five.


M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:


Chris Nelson, Secretary of State